



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1406 Longworth House Office Building • Washington, D.C. 20515 • (202) 225-5506

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 25, 2004

Contact: Stephanie Lundberg
Phone: 202-225-5506

Kind: Budget Leaves 486,585 Wisconsin Veterans Behind *Imperils healthcare for veterans, Leaves VA Department \$1.3 Billion short*

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) criticized the majority leadership's 2005 Budget Resolution for shortchanging veterans by providing \$1.3 billion less than what the Committee on Veterans Affairs recommended for FY 2005. In contrast, the budget plan that Rep. Kind supports provides the fully recommended level of \$32.3 billion for 2005 and includes \$6.6 billion more than the majority's budget over the next five years.

"Our men and women in uniform are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for their country," said Rep. Kind. "Shortchanging these veterans' programs is a slap in the face, not only to them but also to millions more who served our country in the military."

Rep. Kind offered an amendment to the Budget in Committee to boost funding for veterans to meet the needs of the VA as determined by veterans groups. Kind is also a cosponsor of HR 2318, which would establish a formula based on the number of veterans enrolled for VA health care and the hospital inflation rate projected for each year and would provide necessary funding directly from the U.S. Treasury to the VA Department.